

MEDICAL MARIJUANA/CANNABIS TASK FORCE

MEETING SUMMARY FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2003

EXECUTIVE COMPLEX - 5TH FLOOR 1010 SECOND AVENUE

For Information contact Ed Plank (236-6433).

Attendees:

The following Task Force members were in attendance: Chair: Jerry Meier, Michael Bartelmo, Mike Barbee, Larry Chaidez, Dale Kelly Bankhead, Conley Major and Ann Shanahan-Walsh.

Staff present were Lisa Foster, Staajabu Heshimu, Ed Plank and Lt. Cesar Solis.

Law/Legislative Subcommittee Report

Dale Kelly Bankhead summarized the Subcommittee discussion and recommendations for actions to clarify the State and County situations regarding implementation of the SB 420 which requires establishment of a state wide voluntary medical cannabis identification card program. The Task Force approved motion is attached.

Other Business

Conley Major suggested a status report be prepared to summarize the current situation regarding City and State activity regarding medical cannabis. There was general support for the concept. The Chair offered to begin preparation of a draft for distribution and review.

Conley Major asked that arrangements be made for a Task Force photograph and suggested that certificates of participation be prepared to recognize the individuals who have contributed.

Mike Barbee mentioned the Attorney General's office had issued an opinion regarding concentrated cannabis and hashish.

It was discussed that a decision on cancelling the December meeting would be withheld, pending the need for updates/discussion of County or State action regarding SB420.

Public Comment

- Speaker commented that State Health Department would base design of state program on San Francisco's existing identification card program
- Speaker questioned how local law enforcement would respond when small independently owned co-ops would begin springing up after January 1 - Cesar Solis commented that the Police Department is recognizing the amounts in the Council approved Ordinances when they have any interaction with medical marijuana. If there is a conflict between Ordinance and AB420 amount of cannabis or number of patients, it will be evaluated on a case by case basis. Co-op issue referred to Legislative Subcommittee - with request to review latest Police statistics on medical cannabis interactions
- Speaker commented that SB 420 eliminated applicability of Health and Safety Code sections regarding transportation, sales, individuals on probation and in prison with respect to medical cannabis. Speaker expressed positive comments regarding Damon Moseler with the District Attorney's Office and anticipated the County I.D. card program would be running by July 2004. Speaker commented that the Task Force and its Subcommittees should be reorganized. Chair commented that the City Council established the Task Force and its objectives
- Speaker commented on the need for education, especially for physicians, and referred to the California Medical Association's legal opinion on medicinal cannabis. Speaker provided hand out with synopsis of recent medical abstracts on medicinal cannabis research. Speaker offered assistance with educational outreach.